

MARYLAND GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES (GOCI)
MARYLAND COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS (MCIA)
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER
MEETING:
Monday, September 12, 2011
Dorchester County Center for the Performing Arts
7:00 - 9:00 P.M.

Present: Chair Auriel A. Fenwick, Vice Chair Thomas W. Windsor II, Virginia Busby, Kathryn E. Robbins Fitzhugh, Robert Killen, Sherry Majors, Cornelius Allen Red Deer, Guy Wells

Absent: Wanda Lee

Staff Present: E. Keith Colston, Agnes M. Smith

I. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME: Chair Auriel A. Fenwick called the meeting to order. Invocation by Chief Larry Medicine Cat Smack. Chair Fenwick introduced the new Commissioner Robert Killen.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: Administrator Keith Colston's report included highlights of meetings attended, outreach, opportunities, etc. The Administrative Report will be posted on the website.

**III. COMMITTEE REPORTS:
REPATRIATION:**

Commissioner Virginia Busby noted that the Department of Planning Maryland Historical Trust is wrote a letter to the Secretary about remains. There has been no response as of yet. The Chiefs on the Eastern Shore visited a few sites. They still need to get a map to meet requirements. The Piscataway remains are reburied in the exact location where they came from. The next step is to schedule discussion from Indian participants. Hopefully they can get maps to the Trust.

Mr. Bob Gajdys noted that he is very disappointed in State of Maryland bureaucratic delay. There is a need of emphasis from government. It was noted that the letter would be prepared in June. He noted that some of the remains have been in closet since 1935.

Chair Fenwick asked if there was a timeline. Commissioner Busby noted that she thought there would have been a response by now. The Chair noted that there should be a letter from the Commission from Committee Members before the October meeting. Commissioner Busby noted that a copy of the letter could be sent to tribal leaders. Chair noted that letter be composed and moved forward.

Commissioner Busby also spoke on the John Smith Water Trail. She noted they are trying to get people to do land conservation. Trying to promote identification from a Native perspective about what's important. What areas do the people in the State of Maryland think is important.

SWEAT LODGE:

Commissioner Guy Wells noted both lodges are doing well. He noted there was a small internal issue being taken care of at the Western facility.

EDUCATION:

Commissioner Sherry Majors noted that they are continuing to collect data. They are finalizing documents. She noted that Dr. Marci Thoma will be developing curriculum. Hoping to have by spring so a curriculum will be in place for fall.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Maryland Humanities Council Sherman Alexie Tour in September. MCIA will send out a blast e-mail.

Administrator Colston noted that the Governor will be in attendance in Charles County for the Piscataway Indian Fort.

Administrator Colston introduced Officer Mance McCall who is the recruiter for Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Officer McCall noted that he has been with DNR for 11 years since 2000. His job is to recruit everybody. He's not happy about minority representation. He noted that from this side of the bridge there are 3 African Americans and 1 Native American. On the other side of the bridge there are 31 minorities. Officer McCall noted that the recruitment for officers have been extended through October.

Chair Fenwick asked about the criteria. Officer McCall noted that the qualifications are: High School Diploma, no criminal record, 21 years old, 6 month academy in Skysville. There is no age cut-off. After graduating from DNR Academy there are 18 weeks of field training with Field Training officer. They are looking for 20 persons statewide.

Chief Sewell Winterhawk Nause Waiwash Band of Indians Gathering PowWow this weekend

It was noted that the Long House qualified with the National Register of Places. They are doing road signs Harriett Tubman/Native American Community. Vienna is one of the sites for John Smith Water Trail.

Administrator noted that he would receive population charts of the first information received since 2010 Census.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn Commissioner Guy Wells
Seconded by Commissioner Cornelius Red Deer

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.